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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OPIUM DEPARTMENT

OF THE

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY,

INCLUDING SIND AND ADEN,

FOR THE

FINANCIAL YEAR 1903-1904

WITH

APPENDICES.

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From

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. L. JENKINS, M.A., I. C. S.,
Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and A'bkári,
Bombay;

To

R. A. LAMB, ESQUIRE, C.I.E., I. C. S.,
Chief Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
Bombay.

Camp Poona, 27th July 1904.

SIR,

INTRODUCTION.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the administration of the Opium Department of the Bombay Presidency, including Sind and Aden, for the financial year 1903-04, ending 31st March 1904. Under the orders contained in Government Resolution, Revenue Department, No. 4679, dated the 20th June 1904, this report has been confined to matters appertaining to Imperial Revenue only, leaving the Excise side of the subject to be dealt with in the Provincial A'bkári Report.

Changes in the personnel.

2. The Honourable Mr. E. L. Cappel, C.I.E., I. C. S., was in charge of the department from the 1st April to the 7th August 1903, when I took charge and retained it till the 31st October 1903. My services being then placed at the disposal of the Government of India as a Member of the Salt Committee, the Honourable Mr. E. L. Cappel again acted from the 1st November 1903 to the 15th March 1904, when I resumed charge and continued to hold it till the end of the year.

Sources of Revenue.

3. The sources of Imperial Opium Revenue of this Presidency are :—

(1) Duty or pass-fee levied on opium imported by land into the Presidency of Bombay for exportation by sea from the Port of Bombay to China and other foreign countries.

(2) Transhipment or re-exportation fees levied on foreign opium imported by sea into the Ports of Bombay, Karáchi and Aden and thence transhipped or re-exported, and

(3) Warehouse-rent and other miscellaneous receipts.

The bulk of the revenue is derived from the first item.

Names of Scales.	1902-03.	1903-04.
Indore	6,278½	7,445
Ujjain	3,340½	6,066½
Chitor	1,835½	3,499½
Rutlám	2,399	1,739½
Dhar	304½	632
Jaora	644½	672½
Bhopál	427	1,057½
Mandesar	5,115½	5,625
Ahmedabad	850	500
Ajmere	.....	.....
Total ...	21,195	27,237½

Exports from scales to Bombay.

4. The duty-paid exports from the several scales to Bombay for exportation thence by sea to China and other foreign countries and for home consumption were (as detailed in the margin) 27,237½ chests as compared with 21,195 chests during the preceding year. There was thus an increase of 6,042½ chests, due to causes explained in paragraph 8.

Increase or decrease in the exports from the scales.

5. It will be seen from the details given above that the exports from Rutlám and Ahmedabad decreased by 659½ and 350 chests, respectively, while all other Agencies showed increases, *viz.* Indore 1,166½ chests, Ujjain 2,726 chests, Chitor 1,664 chests, Dhár 327½ chests, Jaora 28 chests, and Bhopál and Mandesar 630½ and 509½ chests, respectively. The chests brought to the Ahmedabad scales consisted wholly of Baroda-grown opium intended for subsequent exportation to China. As has been the case for several years past, there were no exports from the Ajmer Agency.

Actual imports of opium and the actual duty-realizations thereon brought to account as Imperial Revenue.

6. The actual imports of opium on which duty at the rate of Rs. 500 per chest was realized during the year under report were 25,974½ chests as shown in Appendix 1 against 19,762½ chests during the previous year—an increase of 6,212 chests, and the actual duty realized was Rs. 1,30,70,750 as against Rs. 99,15,500 in the previous year as shown in Appendices 1 and 5—an increase of Rs. 31,55,250, which is due to increased exports to China.

Bombay Opium Warehouse Accounts.

7. Appendix 2 shows the transactions at the Bombay Opium Warehouse during the year under report. It will appear that 27,498½ chests were imported and lodged in the warehouse against 21,146 chests during the preceding year. Out of these and of the balance of 885½ chests in stock on the 1st April 1903, 25,340 chests were exported to China, 38 chests to Singapore and 22 chests to Zanzibar and other African ports; 943½ chests were sold for consumption in the Presidency, ½ chest was sent to Daryapur in the Berárs and 580 chests were supplied to the Madras Presidency. The balance of opium found in stock in the warehouse on the 31st March 1904 was 1,442 chests against a book-balance of 1,460 chests—a deficiency of 18 chests. This deficiency as compared with the excess of 3½ chests recorded in the previous year is mainly due to the fact that more than 60 per cent. of the opium imported during the year under report was new and therefore more susceptible to dryage than the old opium imported during the eight months ending 31st March 1903. The deficiency, however, applied to all opium lodged in the warehouse during the year under report gives a rate of 3 tolas and 92½ grains per chest only as compared with the rate of 3 tolas and 104 grains per chest during the year 1901-02.

Exports to China.

8. The exports to China during each of the past ten years (April to March) are shown in the margin. Those for the year under report were more by 6,034½ chests than in the previous year and by 7,838 chests than in 1901-02. The increase during the year under report was due to large speculative shipments, induced partly by hopes of a favourable exchange, and partly by a report that the opium crop in China had partially failed. The report however proved to be unfounded or exaggerated, and the shipments to China have consequently declined since April last. It is estimated that by the end of February last the balance of Málwa opium in China was as much as 10,000 chests, or nearly half the annual exports.

	Chests.
1894-95	29,036½
1895-96	25,079½
1896-97	22,103
1897-98	18,177½
1898-99	25,875½
1899-1900	24,981
1900-01	24,696
1901-02	17,502
1902-03	19,305½
1903-04	25,340

Opium prices in Bombay, China and Calcutta.

9. Appendix 3 shows the prices (including the export duty) of opium ruling in the Bombay, Hongkong, Shanghai and Calcutta markets in each month of the year under report. The average prices of opium in the Bombay market during the year under report were Rs. 1,223 per chest for one year old and Rs. 1,332 per chest for two years old opium against Rs. 1,221 and Rs. 1,279 per chest of one year and two years old opium, respectively, during the preceding year. The increase in prices for old opium seems due to the fact that such stocks in Malwa were extremely low owing to failure of the crop in 1899-1900 and 1900-01.

Opium Transactions of the Baroda State.

10. Appendix 4 gives the figures of production and consumption of opium in the Baroda State. As all Baroda grown opium imported into this Presidency is exported to China, information regarding it has been included in this report. It will be seen from Appendix 4 that during the year under report, the area under poppy cultivation in Baroda was 18,398 acres against 5,565 acres during the eight months ending March 1903 and 11,964 acres in the year 1901-02. The average area under cultivation during the three years ending 1900-01 was 2,920 acres. The increase during the year under report is reported to be due to the satisfactory outturn of the poppy crop during the year 1902-03, which induced the cultivators to extend this form of cultivation, and to poppy having been largely sown in succession to the monsoon crops which had been damaged by locusts.

The exports of Baroda opium during the year under report to Bombay for exportation thence to China were, as stated in paragraph 5 of the report, 500 chests as compared with 850 chests during the preceding year. The stocks of opium on hand at the end of the year under report increased from 150,943 lbs. to 167,236 lbs.

11. The total Imperial Revenue from opium during the year under report was Rs. 1,31,15,903, as detailed in Appendix 5, against Rs. 99,59,011 in the preceding year—an increase of Rs. 31,56,892. This increase is due to increased exports to China during the year under report as already stated in paragraph 8 above. The only expenditure which is debited to opium (Imperial) is on account of a portion of the opium establishment employed in the Bombay City and at the Ahmedabad Agency which amounted during the year under report to Rs. 24,606, against Rs. 17,878 during the 8 months ending 31st March 1903.

Total Imperial Realizations and Expenditure.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. L. JENKINS,

Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and A'bkári

APPENDIX 1.

Statement showing the number of duty-paid Opium Chests passed from the Scales and actually imported into Bombay and the Duty actually realized at the rate of Rs. 500 per Chest and brought to account as Imperial Revenue after deducting the Duty on Chests transferred for home consumption during the year 1903-04.

	Chests.	Duty.
		Rs.
Chests passed and duty levied at the scales during the year 1903-04	27,237½	1,36,18,750
Deduct—(1) Chests lost on the way	...	.....
(2) Chests which had not arrived in Bombay before the close of the year including—		
(*a*) Chests on which duty was realized within the year	235½	.....
(*b*) Chests on which duty was not realized within the year	103½	51,750
	26,898½	1,35,67,000
Add—Chests passed at the scales during the eight months ending March 1903, which arrived in Bombay during the year 1903-04 including—		
(*a*) Chests on which duty was realized during the eight months ending March 1903	68½	.....
(*b*) Chests on which duty was realized during the year 1903-04	531½	2,65,750
Actual imports into Bombay for exportation by sea and actual realizations	27,498½	1,38,32,750
Deduct—Transfers to other Provinces—		
(1) Madras Presidency	580	2,90,000
(2) Daryapur (Berars)	½	250
Actual imports and realizations on account of Bombay Presidency	26,918	1,35,42,500
Deduct—Transfers for home consumption (Bombay Presidency) ...	943½	4,71,750
Net Imperial Total ...	25,974½	1,30,70,750

J. L. JENKINS,
Commissioner of Customs,
Salt, Opium and A'bkári.

APPENDIX 2.

Statement showing the Transactions at the Bombay Opium Warehouse for the year 1903-04.

	Chests.
Book balance on 31st March 1903	882
Add—Excess discovered on stock being taken on 31st March 1903	3½
Actual stock on 1st April 1903	885½
Imported and lodged in the Warehouse during the year under report ...	27,498½
	28,384
Exported to—	
China	25,340
Singapore	38
Zanzibar	8½
Delagoa Bay	8½
Other African Ports	5
Indian Provinces—	
Madras Presidency	580
Daryapur (Berars)	½
	25,980½

	Chests.	
Sold for home consumption—		
(*a*)—To Native States	146	
(*b*)—To licensed opium vendors of British Districts ...	516	
(*c*)—To Government for supply of Depôts	281½	
		943½
Total disposed of ...		26,924
Book balance on 31st March 1904		1,460
		28,384

J. L. JENKINS,
Commissioner of Customs,
Salt, Opium and Abkári.

APPENDIX 3.

Statement showing the Prices of Opium ruling in the Bombay Market, in each month of the year 1903-04 contrasted with the Prices quoted for similar Opium in the principal markets of China, viz., Hongkong and Shanghai, and in the Calcutta Market.

Months.	1903-04.							
	Bombay Market.		Hongkong.		Shanghai.		Calcutta Market.	
	One year old.	Two years old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	Pátna.	Benáres.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
April 1903	1,181	1,261	1,255	1,363	1,299	1,392	1,235	1,217
May	1,188	1,257	1,227	1,326	1,295	1,409	1,248	1,244
June	1,200	1,270	1,247	1,360	1,270	1,410	1,249	1,274
July	1,241	1,307	1,305	1,439	1,297	1,482	1,341	1,335
August	1,259	1,325	1,333	1,450	1,349	1,520	1,395	1,429
September	1,272	1,356	1,345	1,462	1,366	1,530	...	1,479
October	1,270	1,363	1,351	1,500	1,376	1,563	...	1,459
November	1,258	1,364	1,219	1,391	1,320	1,500	1,494	1,481
December	1,203	1,317	1,227	1,373	1,305	1,486	1,509	1,500
January 1904	1,225	1,360	1,296	1,461	1,347	1,536	1,656	1,689
February	1,194	1,381	1,310	1,518	1,334	1,536	1,736	...
March	11,86	1,418	1,261	1,445	1,276	1,489	1,719	...
Total ...	14,677	15,979	15,376	17,088	15,834	17,853	14,582	14,107
Average for 1903-04 ...	1,223	1,332	1,281	1,424	1,319	1,488	1,458	1,411
Average for 1902-03 ...	1,221	1,279	1,204	1,291	1,254	1,344	1,156	1,142

J. L. JENKINS,
Commissioner of Customs,
Salt, Opium and Ábkári.

APPENDIX 4.

Table giving the figures of production and consumption of Opium in the Baroda State.

	Average of three years ending 1900-1901, August to July.	1901-1902, August to July.	1902-1903, August to March.	1903-1904, April to March.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Area under Poppy cultivation	2,920	11,964	5,565	18,398
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Poppy Juice.				
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year ...	45,458	107,809	154,969	162,065
Purchased during the year	47,067	154,607	7,096	147,796
Total ...	92,525	262,416	162,065	309,861
Utilized in the manufacture of opium ...	34,172	107,447	...	159,926
Stock on hand at the end of the year ...	58,353	154,969	162,065	149,935
Total ...	92,525	262,416	162,065	309,861
Production and purchase of opium.				
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year ...	315,529	217,479	200,752	150,943
Manufactured from juice	31,017	94,813	...	144,320
Imported from Málwa	.....	...	...	...
Confiscated opium	10	1	2	...
Total Stock ...	346,556	312,293	200,754	295,263
Disposal of Opium.				
Exported to Bombay *vid* Ahmedabad ...	45,232	81,165	34,011	101,951
Issued to Licensed Retailers ... Navsari ...	.....	1,744	1,206	1,929
Baroda... ...	.....	14,372	8,361	14,211
Kadi	.....	4,451	2,422	3,790
Amreli	.....	3,317	2,079	3,273
Total ...	35,482	23,884	14,068	23,203
Total ...	80,714	105,049	48,079	125,154
Loss from dryage, &c.	4,701	6,492	1,732	2,873
Stock on hand at the end of the year ...	261,141	200,752	150,943	167,236
Total of Exports and Issues, Loss and Balance	346,556	312,293	200,754	295,263

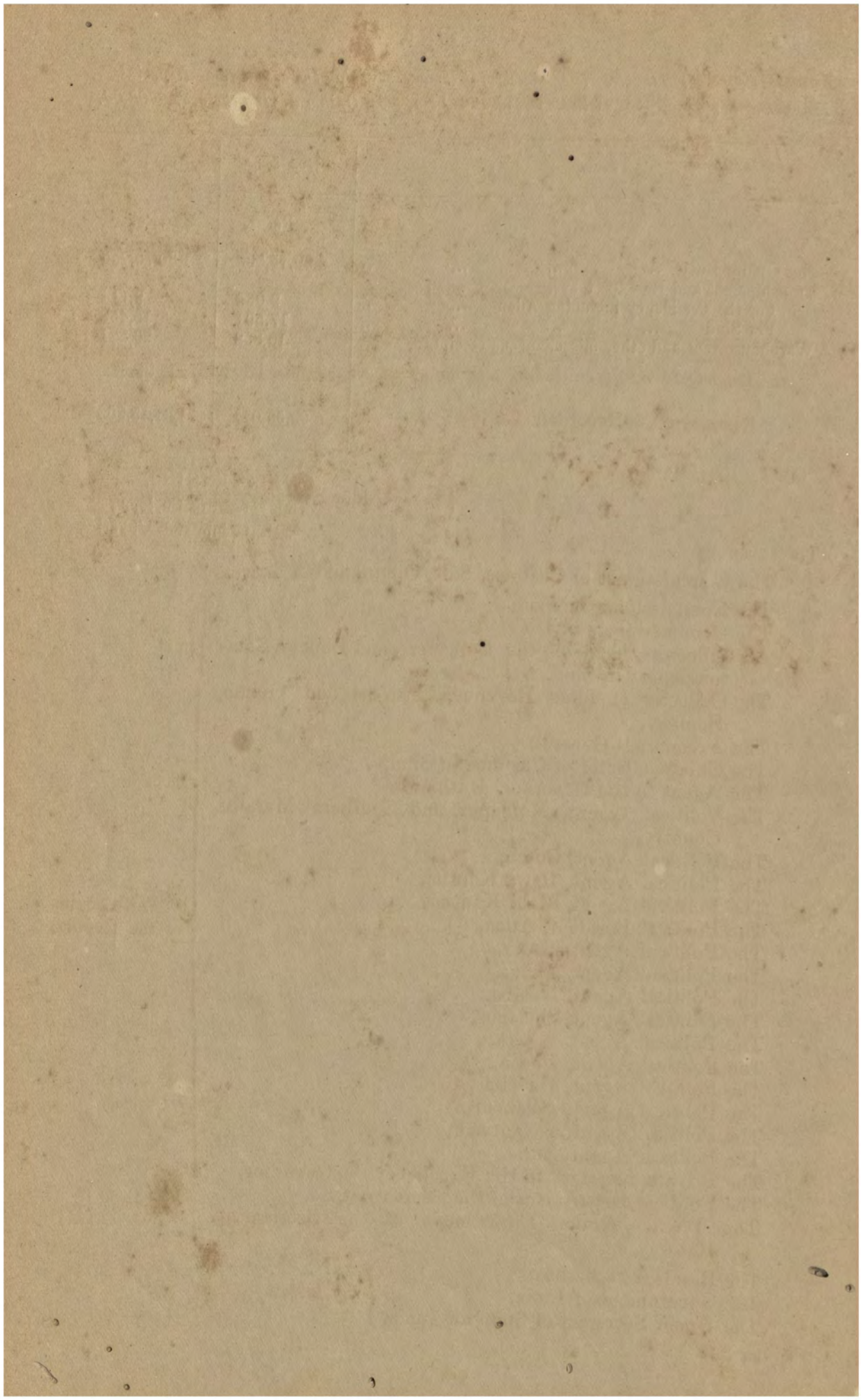
J. L. JENKINS,
Commissioner of Customs,
Salt, Opium and A'bkári.

APPENDIX 5.

Statement showing the details of the several items comprising the actual total Imperial Revenue of the Presidency, including Sind and Aden, from Opium during the year 1903-04.

Items.	1902-1903.	1903-1904.
	Rs.	Rs.
Net Opium Duty	99,15,500	1,30,70,750
Transhipment and Re-export Fees—		
For the Presidency including Aden	9,082	9,114
For Sind	17,591	15,458
Warehouse rent and other miscellaneous receipts ...	16,838	20,581
Total ...	99,59,011	1,31,15,903

J. L. JENKINS,
Commissioner of Customs,
Salt, Opium and A'bkári.



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Annual Reports.

Report on the Administration of the Opium Department of the Bombay Presidency, including Sind and Aden, for the financial year 1903-04.

No. 7342.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 27th September 1904.

Letter from the Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and A'bkári, No. 4561, dated 27th July 1904—Forwarding the Report on the Administration of the Opium Department of the Bombay Presidency, including Sind and Aden, for the financial year 1903-04.

RESOLUTION.—Recorded.

G. F. KEATINGE,
Under Secretary to Government.

To

The Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and A'bkári,
The Commissioner in Sind,
The Commissioners of Divisions,
All Collectors, including the Collectors and Deputy Commissioners in Sind,
The Collector of Land Revenue, Customs and Opium, Bombay,
The Accountant General,
The Chief Collector of Customs in Sind,
The Agent to the Governor, Káthiáwár,
The Political Agent, Kolhápur and Southern Marátha Country,
The Political Agent, Cutch,
The Political Agent, Rewa Kántha,
The Political Agent, Mahi Kántha,
The Political Resident, Aden,
The Political Agent, Kaira,
The Political Agent, Thána,
The Political Agent, Kolába,
The Political Agent, Sholápur,
The Political Agent, Sátára,
The Political Agent, Poona,
The Political Agent, Dhárwár,
The Political Agent, Pálanpur,
The Political Agent, Sávantvádi,
The Political Agent, Surat,
The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor,
The Political Department of the Secretariat,
The Public Works Department of the Secretariat,
Railway,
} With copies of the Report.

The Resident at Baroda,
The Government of India,
The Under Secretary of State for India.
} By letter.

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